



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	Hoffman et al.)	
)	
SERIAL No.:	09/924,862)	ART UNIT
)	1745
FILED:	August 8, 2001)	
)	EXAMINER:
)	Cantelmo, Gregg
FOR:	ELEMENT SLEEVE)	

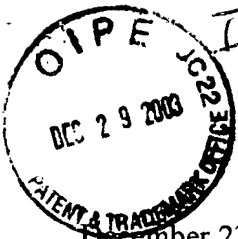
RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT (37 CFR 1.121)

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the office action dated September 29, 2003, and the notice of non-compliant amendment (37 CFR 1.121) dated December 3, 2003, applicant responds as follows:

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
December 23, 2003 (Date of Deposit)	
Mary Anne Rousseau (Name of Person Mailing Paper)	
Signature <i>Mary Anne Rousseau</i>	Date <i>12-23-2003</i>



December 23, 2003

1745

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: United States Patent Application
Inventor: Hoffman, et al.
Entitled: ELEMENT SLEEVE
Serial No.: 09/924,862
Filed: August 8, 2001
Attorney Docket No: DP-304542

Sir:

We enclose herewith:

- ☒ Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)
- ☒ Copy of Non-Compliant Amendment submitted on November 12, 2003.
- ☒ Acknowledgement postcard

Applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136 and other applicable rules to have the response period extended the number of months necessary to render the attached communication timely in the event a petition is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher C. Boehm

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent Office via first class mail, addressed to Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 23 2003.

Mary Anne Rousseau